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FROM: Meg B. Pirkle, P.E., Chief Engineer
TO: Division of Engineering, Operations, Construction, Engineering Services,
Field Districts, Program Delivery, Innovative Program Delivery, TIA,
Consultant Relations Committee
SUBJECT: Practical Design Guide Release

The Department has formally published the first version of the Practical Design Guide. The guide is published on the R.O.A.D.S Manual and Guidelines webpage at <http://www.dot.ga.gov/PartnerSmart/DesignManuals/DesignPolicy/PracticalDesignGuide.pdf>

As most plan development processes and designs often focus on maximizing benefit to the single **PROJECT** or aspect thereof, Practical Design should focus decision-making to maximize benefit to the statewide transportation **SYSTEM**. Changing the current culture to one of practical design will meet the goal to allow more system needs to be addressed by meeting individual project performance objectives for the least cost. Georgia DOT's Vision, Mission, Core Values and Goals are guiding principles in the Practical Design approach.

The Practical Design Guide is intended to educate, inform and create a vision and foundation for how projects are planned, programmed and designed.

If you have any questions concerning the Practical Design Guide, please email practicaldesignguide@dot.ga.gov.

MAP:HP:CAC